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LETTER DATED 23 AUGUST 1969 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL TO
THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to my letter to you of 19 August 1969 (A/7582, S/9398) and to General Bull's supplemental information of 19 August 1969 (S/7930/Add.311, para. 2) and to inform you of the following:

The resumption of work on the construction of a shelter for the United Nations Military Observers at Observation Post Orange, which was disrupted and stopped on 19 August 1969 by shelling from the Egyptian side of the Suez Canal, has been further hampered by the United Arab Republic.

On the night of 20-21 August 1969, when all was ready for the resumption of work the next morning, the Senior Israeli Liaison Officer was informed by the United Nations Military Observers that the United Arab Republic authorities were opposed to the resumption of work on the shelter.

The Israeli Liaison Officer replied that the United Arab Republic's approval is not required for the construction of shelters for the United Nations Military Observers on the Israeli side of the cease-fire line, and that as far as Israel is concerned the work could start on the morning of 21 August as scheduled. Nevertheless, at the request of the United Nations Military Observers, construction work was not resumed.

This is another example of Egyptian disregard for the safety of the United Nations Military Observers frequently endangered by attacks by the Egyptian armed forces.

I have the honour to request circulation of this letter as documents of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

(Signed) Yosef TEKOAH
Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations

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